

Zeckendorf Will Push Development Of Tarrant Land Site Despite Suit

Legal action of an alleged jilted partner in the multi-million dollar Tarrant County land development won't affect plans for the project, developers say.

Milton L. Stern of Toronto claims that, under an agreement with Real Estate Operator William Zeckendorf, he was to have been a partner in the venture.

He filed suit Tuesday in 95th District Court in Dallas seeking a temporary restraining order against the development.

Defendants will be asked to show why the order should not be issued at a hearing at 9:30 a. m. Jan. 20.

"We have no moral nor legal obligation to the man whatsoever," Zeckendorf told the Star-Telegram by telephone from New York.

"He doesn't have a leg to stand on," agreed Angus Wynne Jr.

Others named by Stern as defendants are William Zeckendorf Jr. of New York and Toddie Lee Wynne Sr., Jack Barr Jr. and A. W. Walker Jr., all of Dallas.

Stern stated in his petition that he obtained options on some of the land within the limits of the proposed development Sept. 15, 1955.

He said he asked Webb & Knapp Realty Company, owned by the elder Zeckendorf, to join him in the venture.

Stern's petition states he received a letter of intention from Zeckendorf Sr. Oct. 5, 1955.

Stern told the Star-Telegram he held either title, contracts or options on 3,081 acres and that he planned to increase that to around 6,000 acres.

He said plans announced by Zeckendorf Sr. are like those he initiated.

Stern said he and Zeckendorf Sr. never had a written contract but that he considered the letter of intention binding.

Zeckendorf said "we never made a deal with him" and expressed wonder at Stern's claims in connection with purchase of 2,500 acres of land from Paul Waggoner Tuesday.

Stern, who said he was reared in Texas and is a graduate of the University of Texas, identified himself as president of Texas Industrial Ventures Inc., North American Corporation Consultants Ltd. and World Wide Leaseholds Ltd.

He said he felt damaged by the Tuesday land transaction — largest in Tarrant County's history.

The development of an industrial park on the tract, plus possibly 2,000 to 3,000 acres to the south of it, is expected to be financed equally by Zeckendorf, a Dallas group and Fort Worth investors.

Zeckendorf Jr. said Tuesday that planning would take four to six months, then a distribution warehouse with up to 1,000,000 square feet of floor space would be built for lease.

ELEPHANTS MAKE HAY WHILE OWNERS FACE 8-TON PROBLEM

LAREDO, Jan. 11 (AP).—Lucy and Dixie, two lady elephants who together tip the scales at 15,300 pounds, are munching their hay alongside cattle at the Union Stockyards while their owners try to figure a way to get them across the Rio Grande.

The 45-year-old Lucy and the 63-year-old Dixie, en route to a Mexico City circus, were left here by a van from the Kelly & Miller Brothers Circus winter headquarters at Hugo, Okla.

The original plan was to transfer them to a truck being sent from Mexico City but the elephants' owners found themselves at odds with a Texas truck license law.

The Mexico City truck, now in Nuevo Laredo across the river, can't cross the border without buying expensive Texas license plates. So far custom brokers haven't been able to engage a Texas truck with the necessary licenses to cross the border that is big enough to take the elephants across the pontoon bridge.

Zeckendorf Will Push Development of Tarrant Land Site Despite Suit